

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 117

AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY
17 June 1985

Bill Would Curb U. N. Employee Travel

Washington—The Soviet Union and many of its satellites have been using their presence in the United Nations secretariat to conduct espionage in the U. S., according to Sen. William V. Roth, Jr. (R-Del.), who called on his Senate colleagues to limit the Soviets' freedom of movement.

Under Roth's proposal, United Nations employees from the Soviet Union and other countries would be subject to the same travel restrictions that apply to those countries' diplomats accredited to the U. S.

Roth earlier had introduced legislation to limit similarly Soviet officials and others "on secondment" to the U. N. The majority of Soviets in the secretariat are on loan, he said, but could be given full U. N. employee status, leaving a loophole that the new proposal is intended to close.

Of the 800 Soviet employees of the U. N. organization's secretariat, 200 are full-time officials of the KGB or military intelligence service (GRU), according to a report prepared for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence by the Central Intelligence Agency. Other Soviet citizens must respond to the demands of Soviet officials and intelligence officers, Roth said.

"Soviet and Eastern bloc personnel use their positions to promote a broad range of foreign policy objectives in the United Nations and its specialized agencies," the study found. Soviet and bloc-state citizens working in the U. N. have four basic objectives, despite a U. N. regulation requiring them to serve exclusively the interests of the U. N. and forbidding them to accept instruction from any government. These objectives are to:

- Promote Soviet Union and its allies' interests in the U. N.
- Spread Soviet propaganda.
- Influence citizens and groups in other U. N.-member states.
- Undertake intelligence operations.

Soviet personnel placement policies reflect the nation's interests in acquisition of Western technology, propaganda and intelligence activities. The Soviets take advantage of geographic distribution quotas and well-placed staff members to improve their ability to hold key posts.

"By remaining grossly underrepresented in terms of their quota," a State Dept. international organizations specialist said, "the

Soviets have relatively more right to see one of their citizens appointed to a job that offers particular influence or access." The Soviets often propose candidates who are very highly qualified, if not overqualified, when they want to fill a given slot, the specialist said.

Soviet employees at the Montreal-based International Civil Aviation Organization demonstrate the pattern. The Soviet Union has remained consistently underrepresented. Only five Soviet citizens are employed at ICAO in jobs subject to geographic distribution, although the USSR is entitled to fill 19 such slots, according to an ICAO Council paper.

The USSR declines to nominate candidates for vacant positions that it might be able reasonably to fill. Instead, the Soviets seek positions that offer special influence over the organization's work or that provide access to technology or personnel records. Present Soviet Union efforts center on its candidate for the directorship of ICAO's Air Transport Bureau.

Soviet citizens now hold the following positions with ICAO:

- Technical officer, Aeronautical Information and Charts Section, in the Air Navigation Bureau.
- Technical officer (electrical engineering), Technical Support Section, Technical Assistance Bureau. The section evaluates specifications of systems that might be purchased by ICAO member states.
- Technical officer (meteorology), ICAO regional office, Bangkok.
- Statistical officer, Economic and Statistical Branch, Air Transport Bureau. The position offers insight into Western air transport capacity.
- Recruitment officer, Recruitment and Placement Section, Administrative Bureau. The section holds all ICAO staff personnel records and handles all recruitment and candidate evaluation.

In addition, the USSR directly provides the 15-member ICAO Russian-language staff for interpretation of meetings and document translation. All are male, and most are in their mid- to late twenties.

The Canadian government forced the departure from ICAO in September, 1983, of Technical Officer A. S. Solousov for spying.